

# WILTON

M A G A Z I N E

SUMMER 2004

\$4.95



**L**ooking at the cozy, light-filled studio where Susan Condie Lamb creates her enchanting artwork, it's difficult to imagine that it sprung from a tumble-down garden shed and one-time pigeon coop. Lamb illustrates picture books for children and she relishes having this freshly renovated space all to herself. By having a dedicated area to concentrate on her drawings and paintings, she can more readily stay "in the zone" when she's in the midst of an assignment. Before the studio came to life, she worked at her kitchen table, which wasn't exactly an ideal arrangement for a job where one has to balance focused thought with creativity.

Lamb started illustrating children's books almost fourteen years ago; however, juggling deadlines and toddlers proved too hectic a lifestyle. She took several years off to care for her children, but two years ago, with her children entering middle school, Lamb decided the time was right to resume her career. To make things easier for both Lamb and her family, she thought hard about the setup she'd need. Lamb said, "I wanted a place where I could shut out everyone and everything and just concentrate on my work. I needed solitude and freedom from interruptions." It had to be exclusively for her use, otherwise she'd waste time setting up and packing up each day. She also recognized that there was something more to her quest for a private place for herself. She adds, "Having a space of my own made me feel like a legitimate working person again. This wasn't just a little hobby or something. It was a real job and this would be my office." >>

# *Metamorphosis...*

An Artist's Studio from a Pigeon Coop

JENNIFER FOUNDSTONE writer SUSAN CONDIE LAMB illustrator